subject State Governments have been implementing Rural Water Supply Programmes under the State Sector Minimum Needs Programme (MNP). The Central Government, through the Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission only supplement the efforts of the State Government by providing central assistance under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP). The State Governments have been delegated powers to plan and implement individual Water Supply Schemes under the ARWSP on the pattern of the MNP. As such, information regarding design life of the system, replacement cost, number of schemes to be replaced etc. is not maintained at the central level. Essentially this is a function of the State Governments.

State legislations nullifying 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendments

1686. SHRI S.B. CHAVAN: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendments were passed by Parliament;

(b) whether Government are aware that some States have passed legislation to nullify the objects of empowerment of Panchayati Raj Institutions by reducing the tenure of the office bearers from five years to one year; and

(c) what steps are contemplated by Government to set right these retrograde measures and how soon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Government is committed to ensuring implementation of the Constitutional provisions in letter and spirit. The Governments of Maharashtra and Karnataka have made provisions in their respective Panchayati Raj Acts for tenure of office bearers of PRIs that are not in consonance with that envisaged in the Constitution Seventy-third Amendment Act, 1992. It is proposed to take up the matter with the Governments of Maharashtra and Karnataka for its rectification.

Long term Action Plan for KBK

1687. SHRI SANATAN BISI: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received the report from Orissa Government regarding effective monitoring and co-ordinating arrangement both at the field level and at the State level, associating the representative of the people on long term Action Plan for KBK in Orissa; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL): (a) and (b) The State Government of Orissa have reported that a Senior Officer in the rank of Commissioner has been appointed as Administrator (Special Projects) and it has been decided that his Headquarter shall be at Koraput. This Officer is reviewing the implementation of the Revised Action Plan and coordinating the activities in the field of different Departments of State Government concerned with the implementation of the Revised Action Plan. It has also been decided to constitute a project level Advisory Committee under the Chairmanship of Chief Secretary to review implementation of the Revised Action Plan. Senior Officers of State Government concerned with implementation of the Revised Action Plan and the Administrator (Special Projects) are Members of the Committee. The State Government have also decided to constitute a State Leval Advisory Committee under the Chairmanship of Chief Minister. Representatives of Government of India, Members of Parliament and Members of State Legislative Assembly are Members of this Advisory Committee.

Evaluation of JRY

1688. SHRI PARAG CHALIHA: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have since completed the evaluation work of JRY in the country;

(b) if so, the details of achievements made in it, State-wise;

(c) whether any loopholes have been detected;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) what are the details of corrective steps taken/contemplated by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir. The second round of Concurrent Evaluation of JRY (from June, 1993 to May, 1994) covering 470 districts, 933 blocks and 4700 Village Panchayats have been completed.

(b) to (d) the results of Evaluation are not given State-wise separately. The general findings of the evaluation in brief, are as follows:—

Among the positive aspects highlighted in the Evaluation Report are:—

* Nearly 82.16 per cent of available funds were spent for community development projects
* Construction of rural link roads received the highest priority.
* Average wages paid per manday of the unskilled workers were more or less on the lines of minimum wages prescribed under the Act.
* The wage and non-wage component of the expenditure was 53.47.
* By and large, payment to JRY workers was made either on a daily basis or weekly basis.
* In 86.8% cases Muster Rolls were maintained and available with the Village Panchayats.
* Of the total assets created, 76.11 per cent were found to be in good satisfactory condition.
* The share of SCs/STs in generation of employment was satisfactory.
* Roughly, 11 mandays of employment were created during the reference period. Besides, family members of the workers also received employment during the last 30 days preceding the date of survey.
* 76.96 per cent of the assets created by village panchayat were of good quality.

Inadequacies highlighted by the evaluation:

* More than 50 per cent of elected panchayat heads were not imparted training for implementation of JRY works.
* The share of women in employment generation was less than the prescribed 30 per cent.
* 49.47 per cent of the works could not be completed on account of shortage of funds.
* Some discrepanies were observed in payment of wages between male and female workers.
* The use of locally available material in various works undertaken by Panchayats was not appreciable.

(e) Government have taken a number of steps to improve the implementation of JRY since its inception. The programme was first reviewed and streamlined during 1993-94 and again in 1995-96. No Panchayat is allowed to carry over more than 25% of the allocated funds. If carry over exceeds 25%, the allocation equivalent to excess amount is deducted at the time of release of second instalments during the next year. Provision has also been made to spend a maximum of Rs. 50,000 at the DRDA level to meet the training expenses of the official and non-officials involved in the implementation of JRY. It has been provided that at least, 50% of the training expenses must be spent on training of non-officials.

In addition, State Government have been advised to constitute Monitoring and Vigilance Committees at the village, block and district levels to supervise and monitor the implementation of the rural development programmes. It has been reiterated to all the State Governments that equal wages should be paid to both men and women under Section 4 and 5 of Equal Remuneration Act, 1976 (Act No. 25 of 1976).